

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A software appliance apparatus for locally enhancing a remote programming receiving broadcast content information having at least one software application comprising:

a central processing unit;

a receiver coupled to said central processing unit for receiving said programming broadcast from a remote service provider;

a local memory module device ~~contained within said software appliance apparatus~~ and electrically coupled to said central processing unit;

a data structure contained and stored on said memory ~~module device~~, said ~~single reference data structure capable of~~ configured to locally enhance said programming broadcast with a local service that provides at least one of (i) content and (ii) functionality to said programming broadcast, wherein said local service bypasses said remote service provider receiving and storing said broadcast content information, said broadcast content information processed by said central processing unit such that the software appliance apparatus receives the content information and processes the at least one software application therewith;

a connection coupled to said central processing unit to provide said remote programming broadcast and said local service for rendering on a local television display; and

~~an application program interface for providing a single unified access interface to~~
~~the software application, wherein all of said content information is accessed~~
~~through said application program interface; and~~
a monitoring and billing module, coupled to the memory ~~module~~ device, to monitor
activity of said local service ~~the at least one software application~~ and to bill
a recipient based on the activity monitored.

2. (original) The software appliance apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
apparatus operates within a Digital TV Application Software Environment (DASE).

3. (original) The software appliance apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data
structure is Program and System Information Protocol ("PSIP") compatible.

4. (currently amended) The software appliance apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprises a ~~disk~~-reader, coupled to the central processing unit, to read content on a
~~source disk~~ said local memory device and to transmit it as at least part of said local service ~~to the~~
~~data structure as the broadcast content information.~~

5. (currently amended) The software appliance apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the software appliance further comprises a connector configured to receive a personal
digital assistant (PDA) or a computer device connection ~~for connection to a PDA device enabling~~
~~the PDA device to access the at least one software application.~~

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The software appliance apparatus according to claim 7~~1~~,
wherein said software application apparatus is configured to reside within ~~further comprising a~~
~~set top box, coupled to the data structure, to receive the broadcast content information for~~
~~rendering on a display device.~~

9. (original) A method for ~~utilizing~~ locally enhancing a programming broadcast content information having at least one software application from a remote service provider for rendering on a television display, the method comprising:

receiving a programming broadcast content information data stream from a remote service provider, comprising the at least one software application;

locally enhancing processing the programming broadcast content information to access the at least one software application with a local service that provides at least one of (i) content and (ii) functionality to the programming broadcast, wherein said local service bypasses said remote service provider;

transmitting a request to a remote billing server for use of said local service collecting component data from the broadcast content information data stream; storing the collected data in a data store; accessing a data channel identified in the collected data, wherein said request bypasses said remote service provider; and

providing the remote programming broadcast and the local service for rendering the at least one software application found within the accessed data channel for on a local television display and for utilization by a user.

10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the programming broadcast content information is based on a Digital TV Application Software Environment (DASE) framework.

11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising a step of collecting Digital Storage Media Command and Control (DSMCC) data from the programming broadcast into a local~~wherein the data stream is~~ Program and System Information Protocol ("PSIP") ~~compatible~~database.

12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the local service includes broadcast content information data stream receiving step~~includes the step of reading content on a~~ local source disk.

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of remotely monitoring usage of the ~~at least one software application by the user~~local service.

14. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of billing ~~the user for the usage~~ use of the ~~at least one software application as monitored~~ local service.

15. (currently amended) A computer-readable code product utilized within a programmable computer environment for utilizing a remote programming broadcast content ~~information having at least one software application and a local service~~, the product comprising:

- computer readable code for receiving said remote programming broadcast content information data stream, comprising the at least one software application;
- computer readable code for locally enhancing said programming broadcast with said local service that provides at least one of (i) content and (ii) functionality to said programming broadcast, wherein said local service bypasses said remote service provider processing the broadcast content information to access the at least one software application;
- computer readable code for ~~collecting component data from the broadcast content information data stream~~ transmitting a request to a remote billing server for use of said local service, wherein said request bypasses said remote service provider; computer readable code for storing the collected data in a data store; computer readable code for accessing a data channel identified in the collected data; and
- computer readable code for providing said remote programming broadcast and said local service for rendering the at least one software application found within the accessed data channel for on a local television display and for utilization by a user.

16. (currently amended) The product according to claim 15, wherein the ~~broadcast content information~~ product is based on a Digital TV Application Software Environment (DASE) framework.

17. (currently amended) The product according to claim 15, wherein the ~~data stream~~ product is Program and System Information Protocol ("PSIP") compatible.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The product according to claim 15, further comprising computer readable code for monitoring usage of ~~the at least one software application by the user~~ said local service.

20 – 28 (canceled)